

PATENT APPLICATION
DOCKET NO. 41394-9USPT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: JOHN R. HAMPTON, et al

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Serial No. 09/887,392

Group No. 1724

Filed: June 22, 2001

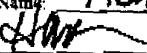
Examiner: Robert J Popovics

For: FILTER ELEMENT ISOLATION
BARRIERCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Certificate of Transmission/Mailing
37 C.F.R. §1.8Date of Transmission: 7-29-03

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated above.

Typed or Printed Name: Heather VuSignature: RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

In response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2003, Applicants respectfully respond as follows. This response is timely filed and no extension of time is requested.

Claims 1-48 are pending in the application. Claims 1-48 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- I. Claims 1-44, drawn to FILTRATION APPARATUS, classified in class 210, subclass 247.
- II. Claims 45-48, drawn to a METHOD OF FILTERING FLUIDS, classified in class 210, subclass 767.

Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-44, without traverse.

Applicants provisionally elect the species of Figure 4, on which claims 1, 3-11, 13-21, and 24-44 read. However, Applicants would like to pursue a generic claim on the embodiments shown in the figures.

08-11-03 02:51pm From-

T-682 P.08/06 F-742

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No fees are believed due with this Response; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0447, reference 41394-9USPT(MAB).

Respectfully submitted,

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A Professional Corporation

Margaret A. Boulware

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Date July 29, 2003
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